



TOP Supports Health Care

TOP has funded over fifty projects involving health care organizations in thirty-four states. Health care recipients include:

Khmer Health Advocates, West Hartford, CT

Project partners are creating a telemedicine network to address health issues faced by Cambodian Americans who were victims of trauma and torture in their homelands. The project involves placing video conferencing equipment and peripherals in health care facilities as well as community centers and pagodas, where Cambodian Americans congregate. The torture victims will be linked through videoconference technology to specialists across the nation.

MedCenter One Health Systems: Dakota Telemedicine System, Bismarck, ND

The Dakota Telemedicine System provides new and expanded health care services to veterans and Native American veterans living in North Dakota. There are three tele-consultations hub sites on the DTS network: hospitals in Minot and Bismarck and the VA Medical Center in Fargo and eleven telemedicine facilities.

Duke University, Durham, NC

This project is creating a centralized web-based database of primarily Medicaid patient information (care management plans, initial enrollment health data), enhances the core information on each patient by importing electronically stored data from two practice-specific databases, and is developing tools that will proactively assist with population-based disease management and preventive health services.



Nurse Kathy Archer uses an otoscope to transmit images of grade-schooler Maja Basic's throat to University of Kansas pediatrician Patricia Shaw.

Photo: Shari Hartbauer

University of Kansas Medical Center's Tele-KidCare, Kansas City, KS

This project utilizes PC-based technology to link physicians with children visiting the school nurse office at eight schools in Wyandotte County. Physicians will provide a wide array of services via telemedicine, including check-ups; acute examinations for ear infections, strep throat, respiratory problems or rashes; managing chronic conditions such as diabetes, or asthma; and telepsychiatry and telepsychology for children with behavioral and learning disorders.

University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

The University of Vermont and State Agricultural College will use video technology to educate trauma technicians to make better, more informed treatment decisions, as well as providing a mechanism for consultation. This project will use a personal computer-based, two-way interactive video telemedicine system to provide 24-hour access to trauma center specialty surgeons at work and at home; educate rural ambulance personnel and doctors who currently have limited access to educational opportunities; and institute trauma prevention projects that have proved successful in rural areas.